

CLAIMS

1. A fluid line connector assembly comprising:
a length of flexible tubing having a tubing end;
an end fitting rotatably supported on said tubing end;
a sealing member compressively positioned between said tubing end and
said end fitting; and,
a retainer extending from said tubing end and engaging said end fitting
preventing the axial removal of said end fitting from said tubing end.
2. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 1, wherein said
retainer is integrally formed on said tubing end.
3. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 2, wherein said
retainer includes a radially outwardly extending flared portion.
4. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 3, wherein said flared
portion is substantially frustoconical.
5. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 2, wherein said end
fitting includes a radially outwardly extending annular groove and said retainer extends
into said annular groove.
6. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 5, wherein said
retainer is a projection extending outwardly from said tubing end.
7. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 6, wherein said
projection is an annular projection.
8. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 1, wherein said tubing
end includes a radially inwardly extending annular groove, and at least a portion of said
retainer is received within said annular groove of said tubing end.

9. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 8, wherein said end fitting includes a radially outwardly extending annular groove, and at least a portion of said retainer is received within said annular groove of said end fitting.

5 10. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 9, wherein said retainer is a removable retaining ring.

11. A method of assembling a fluid line connector assembly comprising the steps of:

10 a) providing a length of flexible tubing having a tubing end, an end fitting having an inside wall at least partially forming a passage through said end fitting, and a sealing member;

b) installing said sealing member on one of said tubing end and said end fitting;

15 c) installing said end fitting on said tubing end such that said passage receives said tubing end and said sealing member is compressively positioned between said tubing end and said end fitting; and,

d) forming a retainer on said tubing end to axially retain said end fitting thereon.

20 12. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 20, wherein said step d) includes radially outwardly displacing a portion of said tubing end to form said retainer.

13. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 21, wherein said retainer is substantially frustoconical.

25 14. A fluid line connector assembly according to claim 21, wherein said end fitting includes a radially outwardly extending groove, and said retainer is formed into said groove.

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